



SILENT READING FOR THE GRADES
BOOK III

A Little Work Box
for Grade III

D. J. DICKIE

INSTITUTE OF APPLIED ART, LTD.

Educational Publishers

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PREFACE

In Grades I and II you learned to read stories in books. In Grades III and IV, boys and girls should begin to get information out of books. When you grow up and begin to earn your living, you will need information about many things. You should gather as much information as ever you can while you are in school.

Two things help you to get information from books. First, you must learn to think while you read. Keep your mind on the reading, try to understand everything that the writer says, and remember it. Second, you must learn to read quickly, then you can read more books.

This book is called "A Little Work Box," because it is full of short pieces of information. These are like bits of cloth or wood you practice sewing or whittling on. Reading them you will get practice in thinking while you read, in understanding what the writer says, and in remembering it. There are questions to answer after each piece. These are to show whether you understood everything that was said and remembered it. When you have read the piece, cover it with a sheet of paper and try to answer all the questions.

The stories at the end of the book are to give you practice in reading quickly. Read them straight through as quickly as you can; then answer the questions about them. See which pupil can read each story and answer all the questions on it correctly in the shortest time.

PETER AND HIS GOLDEN GOOSE

There was once a man and his wife who had three sons. The eldest of these was called Paul, the second Luke, and the youngest Peter. The father and brothers thought that Peter was half-witted and they made fun of him from morning till night.

One day the father sent Paul into the forest to chop firewood. His mother gave him a nice lunch of little cakes and a bottle of milk. As Paul stepped into the forest he met a little old man, who said, "Young sir, give me one of your cakes and a drink from your bottle of milk. I am very hungry and very thirsty."

"Give you some of my cakes and milk!" said Paul; "the very idea! I have no more than I need for myself. Get away, you old beggar. Be off!"

The little old man trotted off into the woods and Paul saw him no more. Paul now took out his axe and began to cut down a tree, but the axe slipped and cut his leg so badly that he had to go home to have it bound up.

As Paul could not get the firewood, the father now sent Luke into the forest. His mother gave the boy a cake and a jar of sweet cider so that he would not be hungry or thirsty. Luke had gone just a little way into the woods when he, too, met the little old man. "Young sir," said the little old man, "give me, I pray you, a piece of your cake, and a drink of your sweet cider, for I am very hungry and very thirsty."

"Give you some of my cake and cider!" said Luke. "The very idea! I have no more than I need for myself. Be off, you old beggar!"

Luke now began to cut down a tree, but his axe stuck

in the trunk and when he pulled at it to get it out it sprang back in his face and knocked out three of his teeth. He ran home crying to his mother.

"Now what are we to do for firewood?" asked the father. "Paul and Luke are both hurt, and I am too busy with the farm to go to cut it."

"Let me go to the forest to cut firewood, Father," said Peter. "I am sure I could bring you plenty of wood." The father and brothers laughed loudly at this. They thought Peter much too foolish to go into the woods alone.

But Peter coaxed till his father said he might go. His mother gave him a crust of bread and a bottle of water and sent him off. She thought that a crust and some water was good enough for "Silly Peter."

Peter had not gone far into the woods when he met the little old man. "Young sir," said the little old man, "give me, I pray you, a crumb of your bread and a sip of water out of your bottle for I am very hungry and very thirsty."

Certainly, sir," said Peter. "I am sorry I have nothing better to give you, but you may have half of what I have. Let us sit down and share it between us."

So Peter and the little old man sat down by the side of the road and Peter opened his basket. When he looked into it, to his surprise, he found that the bread had changed into the finest cake, and the water had become sweet wine.

Peter and the little old man ate together and then the little old man said, "You are a kind lad. Your brothers sent me off without giving me a bite of anything. You have shared your dinner with me and I shall reward you. Do as I tell you and you will be rich and great. See that

large tree? Cut it down and dig up the roots. Under the roots you will find something very lucky. Good-bye, my boy; keep your kind heart and you will be happy."

The little old man trotted off into the woods and Peter began to chop down the tree. When it fell he dug down under the roots until he came to a wonderful goose with feathers made of purest gold. "If I go home and show this golden goose," said Peter to himself, "Father and the boys will take it from me. I shall not go home. I shall take it under my arm and set off to see the world." Tucking the goose under his arm, Peter started out to see the world.

He walked for some time and at last came to a village. He was hot and tired so he went into the inn to ask for a drink of water. One of the maids brought the water. Peter placed the golden goose on the table and began to drink. While he drank, the maid put out her hand to touch the beautiful golden feathers of the goose. When she had touched them, she found that she could not draw away her hand. She tried and tried, but her hand was held fast.

The maid then began to cry aloud, and two other maids ran into the room. As soon as they saw their friend, they tried to pull her away from the golden goose but they could not do so. As each one touched the other she, too, stuck fast. "Well," said Peter, "I cannot stay here all day, so you will have to come with me." He took the golden goose under his arm and set off.

As this funny party went on down the road they came to a man who was breaking stones. When the man saw the three maids and heard their cries he ran to help them. Alas! as soon as he had touched the third little maid he, too, stuck fast and had to follow the others.

As they went on down the road, they met a shepherd and a haymaker. Each man, in turn, seeing that something was wrong, tried to pull away the last person in the line and each man in turn stuck fast.

As they travelled along they came to the city in which the king lived. Now, the king and queen had only one daughter. She was very beautiful but so sad that nothing could make her laugh. She sat all day long sighing by her window and growing thinner and thinner. The ladies had sung their funniest songs, the gentlemen had told their funniest stories, the clowns had done their funniest tricks, but nothing had made the princess laugh.

At last, the king said that if anyone could be found to make the princess laugh he should marry her and inherit the kingdom. This offer was made known through all the country, and many fine young men came to the palace to try to make the princess laugh. But no one succeeded. The more jokes they make, the sadder grew the princess. The last young man was just leaving the palace when who should come up but Peter and his golden goose with the train of followers running behind.

When the young man saw them he began to shout with laughter. "Run and tell the princess to look out of the window," he said. "For if this does not make her laugh nothing will."

So the princess looked out of the window. She saw Peter and his train and the spell was broken. She smiled. She began to laugh. She laughed and laughed and laughed. The king laughed; the queen laughed; all the ladies and gentlemen laughed.

When the maids and the men running behind Peter

heard the princess laugh they stopped scolding and began to laugh too. As they laughed they were freed from the golden goose. One by one they let go and ran off to their homes.

The king was so pleased to hear his daughter laugh that he gave her to Peter. They were married with great splendor and lived happily ever after.

Draw a line under the right word.

1. The man and wife had sons—four; seven; three; nine.
2. Paul had for lunch—pie; cakes; meat; fruit.
3. Paul met a—man; woman; boy; girl.
4. He gave him—food; drink; firewood; nothing.
5. Paul hurt himself with the—knife; axe; saw; sword.
6. Luke had to drink—milk; tea; cider; coffee.
7. The axe knocked out Luke's—eye; nose; lip; teeth.
8. Peter gave the old man—fun; food; fruit; milk.
9. He found a golden—goose; duck; chicken; swan.
10. He went into an—inn; house; stable; palace.
11. The maid stuck to the—table; door; chair; goose.
12. The men stuck to the—goose; Peter; maids; inn.
13. The princess could not—cry; speak; think; laugh.
14. They sent for—drums; clowns; dresses; hats.
15. The princess married—king; prince; clown; Peter.

DICK WHITTINGTON

Chapter I

There was once a little boy whose name was Dick Whittington. His father and mother died while he was still very young and he was left to get his living as best he could.

Poor little Dick was not old enough to work. Sometimes he was given an errand to do, sometimes the women let him sweep out their yards, sometimes a farmer gave him a penny for holding his horses. Most of the time he had no money at all. He ran about in rags, slept in sheds, and had very little to eat.

The people who lived in the town were very kind to Dick, but they were poor, too, and had very little to give away. The children gave him their crusts, and the women saved the scraps for him.

Though he was so poor, Dick was a clever boy. He listened carefully to what was said and always remembered what he had heard. On Sunday, he went to church and tried to understand what the minister said. He helped the stableman at the hotel on market days and learned many things from the strangers who stopped there.

Many of the strangers came from London, and they liked to talk about it. They would sit by the fire in the evening and talk about the great and wonderful city from which they came. They said in London there was singing and dancing all day long. The people who lived there were lords and ladies who dressed every day in satin and velvet. They said that in London the streets were paved with gold. This was not true, but the people who lived in Dick's town believed all of it.

Dick heard these stories and he, too, believed them. When he was shivering with cold, he would think of the lords and ladies in their satins and velvets. When he had nothing to eat, he shut his eyes and saw long tables covered with white cloths and spread with rich food. When he lay down to sleep in his shed, he dreamed of the golden streets.

"Some day," said Dick to himself, "I shall go to London. Some day I, too, shall be great and rich."

Chapter II

One day, when Dick was helping the stableman, a great wagon drove up to the inn. The wagon was drawn by four horses with shining brass and silver bells on their collars. Dick got some water for the horses and some straw for the stableman to rub them down with.

"Your horses have come a long way, sir," said the stableman.

"All the way from London," said the driver. At this Dick pricked up his ears and looked at the driver with wide-open eyes.

"Do you live in London?" asked the stableman.

"Yes," said the driver, "and glad shall I be to get home again. The roads in this part of the country are bad and my load is a heavy one."

The two men went on talking but Dick heard no more. His chance had come. He slipped out of the yard and ran through the streets to the edge of the town. At the cross-roads stood a sign-post with "TO LONDON" printed on it in large black letters. Dick had often stood looking up at it and thinking of the time when he would take the road to London. With a beating heart, he waited till the wagon came jogging down the road towards him. The driver was walking beside his horses.

"Please, sir," said Dick, "please, sir, I should like to go to London. Would you let me walk beside your wagon till we come there? I would get water for the horses and rub them down with straw, and never, never bother you."

When the driver heard that Dick had neither father nor mother, he told him that he could come with him to London if he liked. Dick was so happy that he almost cried. A lump came up in his throat and his voice shook when he thanked the man. So they set off together.

The story does not tell how poor Dick got food and drink along the way, nor how he managed to walk so far, for it was many miles and he was only a little boy.

Perhaps the people in the towns through which they passed gave him scraps to eat. No doubt the driver let him sleep in the wagon at night. However he managed it, Dick got safely to London at last.

While they were still a good way off, Dick saw a cloud of smoke hanging in the sky. "What is that?" he asked the driver.

"Why that is the smoke of London town," said the driver. "There are so many chimneys in London, and they send up so much smoke that there is almost always a cloud over the city."

Night fell while Dick and the driver were still on the road. Darkness came on and the stars came out. In the sky before them Dick saw a soft red color begin to glow and burn.

"Look," said he, "the sky is on fire."

"Oh, No," said the driver, laughing, "that is the light of London town. There are so many lights in London that they shine up into the sky and make it as red as dawn." Dick began to walk a little faster. He was in a great hurry to see the tall chimneys and the bright lights glittering on the streets paved with gold. The horses were tired with

their long journey. They could not walk very fast, so Dick thanked the kind driver and ran off by himself.

Dick walked and ran, and walked and ran, till at last he came to the houses and the streets. There were chimneys enough and many bright lights, but Dick could not find the golden streets. He ran on and on, looking for them, till he was quite out of breath.

Dick had several times in his life seen a gold coin. He knew well enough how much money it brought in change. He thought, if only he could find the golden streets, he would have nothing to do but to pick up some little bits of the road. He would then, so he thought, have as much money as he could wish.

Poor Dick! He ran till he was tired, but everywhere he turned he saw nothing but common roads. There were no golden streets in London after all. At last he lay down in a dark corner and cried himself to sleep.

Chapter III

Next morning when Dick got up he was very hungry indeed. He walked about the dusty streets looking into the windows of the cake shops and pressing his freckled nose against the glass of the candy shop windows. He did not know a single soul in all that great city. He began to wish that he was back again in his own little town where some kind woman was sure to have saved a crust for him.

By and by he began asking the people he met to give him a penny to save him from starving. Nobody stayed to speak to him. The men hurried by, intent on their business. The women drew their pretty skirts away from his ragged coat and dirty hands.

Then, suddenly, around the corner came a merry looking little boy with another boy chasing him. The first boy ran full tilt into Dick, knocking him down.

"Now see what you have done, Tom," said the second little boy.

"I'm very sorry, I'm sure," said the first little boy. "Here, take this." He thrust a penny into Dick's hand and ran after his friend.

"Well," said Dick, rubbing his head, "that was a lucky blow." He ran off at once to a bake shop and bought a bun which he sat down on the curb to eat. When he had eaten it, he felt better. He walked on and on through the hot afternoon, but no more boys ran into him and no one else gave him a penny. He began to feel faint from lack of food.

At last a kind gentleman saw how pale he looked. "Why don't you go to work, my lad?" he said to Dick.

"I should be glad to work, sir, but I do not know how to get any," said Dick.

"If you are willing to work you may come along with me," said the gentleman.

He took Dick to a fine, large house which sat in a beautiful garden. "My gardener is sick," said the gentleman, "and the garden needs weeding. You may weed this bed if you will." So Dick weeded the garden bed. He was given a good supper and allowed to sleep in the stable.

Early in the morning Dick set off again. He spent his second day in much the same way as he had spent the first. He could find no work of any kind. No one gave him money or food. By night he was so tired and faint that he lay down on a doorstep and fell fast asleep.

Here he was found by a cook. She was a cruel woman and she was very busy at the moment, cooking her master's dinner, so she called out to poor Dick:

"What are you doing there, you lazy boy? I am driven crazy with beggars here. Go away! Go away at once. If you do not go away I will throw this dish-water over you. I have some here that is hot enough to make you jump out of that."

Just at that moment, Mr. Fitz-Warren, the owner of the house, came home to dinner. When he saw a dirty and ragged little boy lying on his doorstep he was angry.

"Why do you lie there, boy?" asked Mr. Fitz-Warren. "You are old enough to work. You must be lazy and wicked."

"Indeed, sir, I am neither lazy nor wicked. I would work with all my heart if I could find any work to do. But I know no one in London and I am sick for want of food."

Mr. Fitz-Warren stooped down and looked sharply into Dick's face. "I believe you are telling the truth, poor lad," he said. "Get up and come into the kitchen. The cook will give you some food."

Dick tried to get up but he could not stand, and was forced to lie down again at once. Mr. Fitz-Warren lifted him up and carried Dick into the kitchen. The cook was very cross indeed when she saw Mr. Fitz-Warren bringing the boy into her clean, bright kitchen, but she dared not speak angrily before her master. She gave Dick a good dinner and then told him he might sleep in the coal hole.

Next morning Mr. Fitz-Warren gave orders that Dick was to stay and earn his board by doing errands for the cook.

Chapter IV

Dick would have been happy enough at the Fitz-Warren's if it had not been for the cook. She was a very bad-tempered woman indeed, and she scolded Dick from morning till night. When she had nothing else to do she would beat him with the handle of the broom.

One day, while the cook was beating poor Dick, Alice Fitz-Warren, the merchant's only daughter, ran into the kitchen. She was a beautiful little girl and very kind. She stood still in the doorway for a moment; then she ran and caught the angry woman's arm.

"Stop!" said Alice. "Stop at once. Don't you dare to strike him again. You know very well that my father would be angry if he saw what you are doing. If ever you beat the poor boy again, I shall ask my father to send you away." After that the cook was careful to leave Dick alone.

He had another trouble to get over, however. He slept in a garret over the stable. The floor and walls were full of great holes, and every night poor Dick was wakened by the rats and mice running over him. Sometimes they bit him.

One day a man gave Dick a penny for cleaning his shoes. On his way home he met a little girl with a cat in her arms.

"That cat would be just the thing for me," said Dick; "will you sell her to me for a penny?"

"Yes," said the little girl, "I will if you will promise to be good to her. She is a fine cat to catch rats."

"That is just what I need," said Dick, and he took the cat home. He hid her in his garret, and always saved some of his dinner for her. Before the cat had been two days in

the garret the rats and mice left it for good. Dick now slept soundly every night.

Chapter V

Soon after this, Mr. Fitz-Warren had a ship ready to sail. He called his servants together and asked them if they would like to make some money in trade. He told them that they might send anything they wished in the ship, and that the captain would trade it and bring back to them the money.

The servants were very much excited and each chose to send the thing which he thought would bring him in the most money. Everyone had something to send except Dick. As he had nothing to trade, Dick did not go in with the other servants, but Alice came and found him. The kind little girl took him by the hand and drew him in with the other servants.

When Mr. Fitz-Warren asked what he would send, Dick said that he was sorry he had nothing at all of his own.

"Then I will give him something to send," said Alice, opening her little purse.

No, daughter," said Mr. Fitz-Warren; "that will not do. Each must send something of his very own. Surely, Dick, you have something you could send?"

"I have a cat, sir," said Dick. "I bought her for a penny and she keeps the rats and mice from my garret."

"Fetch your cat, Dick," said Mr. Fitz-Warren. "You never can tell what good fortune she may bring you."

Dick went up to his garret and brought down his cat. With tears in his eyes he gave her to the captain. "She has

been a good friend to me," he thought. "The rats and mice will be back in my garret in no time, I suppose."

The cook made great fun of Dick for sending a cat in the ship. "She will not sell for as much money as would buy a stick to beat you," said she.

Chapter VI

She teased and laughed at him so much that Dick could not bear it. "I shall run away," he said to himself. "I am sure I can find a place to work where I shall not be used so harshly."

So he packed up his few things and, very early on the 1st of November, slipped out of the house and ran away. He walked on till he came to a place where four roads met. Here he sat down on a stone till he should make up his mind which road to take.

While he was thinking what he should do, the church bells began to ring. Dick thought that they seemed to say to him—

"Turn again, Whittington,
Lord Mayor of London.
Turn again, turn again,
Turn again, Whittington,
Lord Mayor of London."

"Lord Mayor of London!" said Dick to himself. "Why I would put up with anything now to be Lord Mayor of London and ride in a golden coach when I am a man. I shall go back. I shall pay no attention to the cuffs and slaps of the cook. I shall be Lord Mayor of London some day."

So Dick went back and was lucky enough to get into the

house before the cook was out of bed. He set about his work and did it as well as he could. When the cook made fun of him he laughed; when she struck at him he dodged; so he got on very well.

Chapter VII

All this time the ship with the cat on board was sailing across the sea. At last it came to a port in Barbary. The people who live in Barbary are black. They are called Moors. The Moors came down to the shore to see the white sailors. They were very kind to the white men.

When the Moors knew the sailors better they began to buy from them the fine things with which the ship was loaded. As soon as the captain saw this he sent a few of the best things in the ship to the Moorish king. The king was so much pleased with the things that he sent for the captain to come to the palace to visit him.

When the captain reached the palace he found that the king had prepared a great feast for him and his men. The table was laid in a great room. The king and queen went in first and after them the ladies and gentlemen and the sailors. The guests stood behind their chairs while the servants brought in the food and set it on the table. It was fine food and there was a great deal of it, but before the guests had seated themselves, hundreds of rats and mice rushed over the table and swept it bare of every taste of food. The ladies cried with fear and the gentlemen struck at the rats, but they could do nothing, the food was gone.

“What a number of rats and mice you have, your Majesty,” said the captain. “Have you a use for them in this country that you feed them so well?”

"Use for them!" said the king angrily. "They are the plague of our lives. I would give half my riches to be rid of them, but none of my wise men know how to drive them away."

Chapter VIII

The captain jumped up from his seat. He thought of poor Dick and his cat. "Your Majesty," he said, "I have an animal on board my ship which would, I am sure, kill all the rats and mice in your palace in a very few days."

"What is this?" asked the king. "What is this? An animal that will kill the rats and mice which plague us? Let it be brought here instantly. What kind of animal is it?"

"It is a cat, your Majesty," said the captain. "A small animal much used as a pet in my country. Children play with them and women keep them in their houses for company. They live chiefly upon rats and mice which it is their nature to catch, kill and eat."

"If your cat will do what you say she will," said the king, "I will load your ship with gold and jewels to pay for her."

"I shall be very sorry to part with her, your Majesty," said the captain; "she is a great pet among my men. Besides, the rats and mice may get into the ship and do much damage to the goods but, seeing the trouble you are in, one of the men will fetch her at once."

"Pray hurry," said the queen. "Run, I beg of you. I am dying to see this wonderful little animal."

The captain sent one of the men to the ship to get Dick's cat. While he was gone, a second dinner was pre-

pared. The servants were just carrying it in when the man came back with Puss under his arm.

As soon as the food was set upon the table, out came the rats and mice and began to eat it as before. When the cat saw them she jumped out of the man's arms and ran this way and that way about the table, driving the mice before her in all directions. In a few minutes she had laid almost all the rats and mice dead at her feet. The rest of them ran to their holes as fast as they could.

The king and queen were overjoyed to be rid of them and asked that the cat be brought to them.

"Pussy, Pussy, Pussy," called the captain. The cat came to him at once and he gave it to the queen, who was at first afraid to touch it. The captain stroked the cat and said "Pussy, pretty Pussy" till the queen put her hand on the soft fur. In a moment she had taken the cat into her own arms and was stroking and petting it as if she had always had a cat for a pet. The cat seemed happy and soon settled down in the queen's lap, purring and dozing.

The guests now went on with their dinner and were just beginning to enjoy themselves when out came another band of rats and mice. Puss awakened and made after them in a moment and they ran off to their holes as before.

The king was so pleased that he bought all the goods in Mr. Fitz-Warren's ship at a good price. He gave the captain ten times as much for the cat as for all the rest of his cargo.

The captain then set sail for home and after a pleasant voyage reached London safely.

Chapter IX

As soon as the ship had been made fast to the dock, the captain went to Mr. Fitz-Warren's house to tell him how the voyage had gone and to give him the money for his goods. He was shown into the merchant's office where he was warmly welcomed.

"We have had a fortunate voyage," said the captain. "We sold all the goods at a good price and I have brought you this box of jewels in payment." The captain then went on to tell the story of the cat. When he had finished, he handed over to Mr. Fitz-Warren the rich gift which the king and queen had sent to Dick in return for the cat.

"Go and fetch him at once," said Mr. Fitz-Warren.

The servant found Dick busy cleaning a very black pot in which the cook had burned the porridge. He came into the office shyly, trying to hide his dirty hands behind his back.

"Give him a chair," said Mr. Fitz-Warren. Dick was at first afraid to sit down. He began to wonder if the cook had told some dreadful story about him and he was going to be sent away.

"Dick," said the kind merchant, "the ship has come back safely and the captain has brought us the money for our goods. He sold your cat to the king of the country to which he sailed. They had never seen a cat in that country and the rats and mice plagued them sorely. The king has sent in payment for your cat more riches than I own; I hope you may live long to enjoy them." He then handed over to Dick the riches which the king had sent.

Chapter X

Dick was so surprised that he hardly knew what to do or say. He begged kind Mr. Fitz-Warren to take at least half the riches, but the merchant would do no such thing.

"This is your fortune, Dick," he said. "You have gained it honestly and I feel sure you will use it wisely."

Dick then begged to be allowed to give half his wealth to Alice, but she would not take it either. She only laughed and clapped her hands and talked joyfully of his great good luck. Dick, therefore, made rich presents to the captain, the mate, the sailors, the servants, and even to the cross old cook who spoke to him kindly enough now, you may be sure.

Next, he sent for a tailor and had some fine clothes made. When he was washed, and dressed in his new clothes he was as fine looking a young man as you could wish to see.

For a time Dick worked in Mr. Fitz-Warren's office. When he had learned enough about business he set up in trade for himself and soon grew very rich indeed.

When Alice was grown up Dick sought her as his bride and Mr. Fitz-Warren said that he knew no one to whom he would rather marry his daughter. The wedding was a very grand one. It was held in one of the largest churches in London and all the great and rich people in the city went to it. Afterwards there was a great dinner at the Fitz-Warrens and the guests feasted and danced far into the night.

Mr. and Mrs. Whittington lived long and happily, and had several children. In time Dick was indeed made Lord Mayor of London!

Draw a line under the right word.

1. Dick Whittington was—poor; rich; fat; bad.

2. He was—slow; lazy; cross; clever.
3. The men said London streets were—iron; silver; gold; glass.
4. Dick went to London with a—farmer; wagoner; shepherd; doctor.
5. He looked in vain for golden—houses; stores; churches; streets.
6. He lay down on a—chair; bed; step; door.
7. The cook was—sweet; wise; cruel; tall.
8. He slept in the—coal hole; cellar; stable; house.
9. He bought a—dog; rabbit; pony; cat.
10. He sent the cat in the—store; wagon; ship; car.
11. The captain sailed to the country of the—Russians; Greeks; Indians; Moors.
12. They had a plague of—toads; snakes; rats; cats.
13. The king gave for the cat—fruit; silks; riches; food.
14. Dick Whittington married—Alice; queen; cook; maid.
15. He became—duke; earl; count; lord mayor.

THE KNITTING BALL

Little German girls learn to knit. Many of them learn before they are old enough to go to school. When a little German girl begins learning to knit, her mother gives her a knitting ball.

The knitting ball is a great big ball of yarn. It is soft and fat and it has many lumps in it. The yarn is wound around and over all kinds of things—beads, pencils, tiny toys, pieces of money, candies, thimbles, books, tops, anything which the mother thinks the little girl would like.

As she knits the yarn, the little girl finds the presents and keeps them for her own. She knits every day to get the presents and so soon learns to knit well.

Draw a line under the right word.

1. The knitting ball is made of—string; cord; yarn; straw.
2. It is given to little girls in—Canada; Germany; France; Italy.
3. The little girl gets it when she learns to—eat; drink; walk; knit.
4. The ball has in it—great; every; learns; presents.
5. The little girl gets the presents by—talking; crying; knitting; doing.
6. The ball helps her to knit—well; old; pretty; true.
7. She uses—card; yarn; rope; thread.
8. She knits—cups; hats; cakes; stockings.
9. She knits—loudly; slowly; quickly; softly.
10. Knitting is done by—boys; girls; dogs; policemen.
11. They do it every—day; week; month; year.
12. It is useful—play; talk; walk; work.

SILK

Silk is made by a worm. Silkworms come out of tiny yellow eggs. The worms are like very small caterpillars, with black heads and brown bodies. They live on leaves and they eat very fast. As they eat, they grow bigger. As they grow bigger they put off one coat and get a new one. They do this four times.

In a month the silkworm has had enough to eat. He spins silk thread and winds it round and round himself till he is all hidden. This is called his cocoon. He sleeps in the cocoon. When he has slept enough he comes out as a white butterfly.

But the silk farmer does not let him come out. When he comes out he cuts a hole in the silk walls of his cocoon. This

cuts the silk thread. Before he is ready to come out the silk farmer puts the cocoon in the oven. The heat kills the silkworm. Then the farmer unwinds the silk of the cocoon and makes thread of it. Most of our silk thread comes from China and Japan.

Put rings around the right answer.

1. Do silkworms hatch out of eggs?.....Yes. No.
2. Are the silkworms large?.....Yes. No.
3. Do they eat meat?.....Yes. No.
4. Do they eat much?.....Yes. No.
5. Do they change their coats?.....Yes. No.
6. Are the cocoons made of silk?.....Yes. No.
7. Do the farmers let the butterfly come out?.....Yes. No.
8. Does the butterfly spoil the thread?.....Yes. No.
9. Does the worm go to sleep in a basket?.....Yes. No.
10. Does the farmer put the cocoon in water?.....Yes. No.
11. Does he kill the worm?.....Yes. No.
12. Do they keep silkworms in China?.....Yes. No.

AN AMUSING VERSE

I knew an old couple that lived in a wood.

Chipperee, chipperee, chip!

And up in a tree top their dwelling it stood.

Chipperee, chipperee, chip!

The Summer it came and the Summer it went,

Chipperee, chipperee, chip!

And there they lived on and they never paid rent.

Chipperee, chipperee, chip!

Now Winter came on with its frost and its snow.

Chipperee, chipperee, chip!

They cared not a bit when they heard the wind blow.

Chipperee, chipperee, chip!

For wrapped in their furs they lay down to sleep.

Chipperee, chipperee, chip!

But, oh, in the Spring, how their bright eyes will
peep.

Chipperee, chipperee, chip!

Answer the questions with a single word.

1. How many were there?
2. Where did they live?
3. What is a dwelling?
4. How long did they live there?
5. What came with Winter?
6. For what did they not care?
7. How did they keep warm?
8. What did they do?
9. What kind of noise did they make?
10. What were they?

PIERRE RADISSON

A Brave Canadian

When Pierre Radisson was a boy he was captured by the Indians. He lived with them for a long time. They were kind to him but they watched him. At last he escaped. After he was grown up he was very useful to his people because he knew the Indians so well.

Once some Indians caught Radisson and several other white men. They kept them in a hut and planned to kill them. Radisson told the other men how to escape.

They did it this way:

They cooked all the food they had and fed the Indians till they were sleepy. When they were sleeping around

the fire, Radisson and his friends slipped out, ran down to their canoe and paddled away.

Answer the questions with a single word.

1. In what country did Radisson live?
2. Who took him when he was a boy?
3. How did they treat him?
4. Where was Radisson kept?
5. Who told them how to escape?
6. What did they do with the food?
7. How did the food make the Indians feel?
8. In what did the white men escape?
9. Across what did they escape?
10. Who thought of this place?
11. What kind of man was he?
12. From whom had he learned?
13. What was he among the Indians?
14. To whom was he useful?
15. Does much food make you sleepy?

THE MUSKRAT

Tom Peters is a trapper. He has a log cabin by a lake in Manitoba. The cabin is in the woods, far from any town or village. Tom lives alone. He keeps the cabin clean and cooks his own meals. Once every year he goes to the city to buy groceries and clothes. He is always glad to get back to the quiet woods again.

Tom traps fur-bearing animals and sells the skins for a living. He traps some beaver, some foxes, and sometimes takes a wolf, but his trade is mostly in muskrat skins.

The muskrat is a small animal, about fifteen inches

long. He has soft brown fur, a sharp nose and a tail which is almost as long as his body. He lives in lakes and streams, making his hole, or burrow, in the bank. The door of his burrow is always made under the water.

Put rings around the right words.

1. A trapper is a—farmer; lady; hunter.
2. Trappers live in the—house; woods; town.
3. They live in—cabins; tents; stores.
4. They trap—birds; insects; animals.
5. They sell the—heads; tails; skins.
6. Tom traps mostly—wolves; muskrats; dogs.
7. The muskrat is—large; small; old.
8. It lives in a —pen; hut; burrow.
9. The door is under—tree; land; water.
10. They use muskrat skin for—rugs; coats; pillows.
11. Tom lived in—Ontario; Saskatchewan; Manitoba.
12. He lives in a—house; shack; cabin.
13. He is his own—mother; sister; cook.
14. He keeps his cabin—old; clean; large.
15. He buys goods in the—country; woods; city.
16. He shops once a—day; month; year.

FLY PATROLS

Flies, as you know, are very dirty and very dangerous. Their legs are covered with short hairs. When they walk over manure and other filth, as they so often do, many germs stick to these hairs. The fly marches on over your hands or face or bread or milk and leaves these germs behind him. The germs spread many kinds of sickness.

Last year, Lilydell School was much troubled with flies. This spring the boys and girls held a meeting to plan what

they should do about it. John said that he had read in the Red Cross Magazine that one fly lays 120 eggs. These eggs hatch into flies which are ready to lay more eggs in two weeks.

"If we could kill the flies early in the spring," said John, "it would save trouble."

So the Lilydell pupils voted that they would be "Fly Patrols," that on the 1st of May each one should bring a fly-swatter to school and swat every fly he could find. They did this and their school was quite free of flies this summer.

Answer the questions with a single word.

1. What have flies on their legs?
2. What do they gather on these?
3. Where do they leave the germs?
4. What do the germs spread?
5. Where did John read about flies?
6. How many eggs does one fly lay?
7. How long do they take to grow up?
8. What did the Lilydell pupils hold?
9. What did they bring to school?
10. When did they bring them?
11. Did they get rid of the flies?

NAGOO

Frances M. White

Nagoo is a little Eskimo boy. He is eight years old. Nagoo can tell that he is eight years old because there are eight little bones in the bag that hangs beside the door of his father's house.

Where Nagoo lives the sun shines all summer long, and then goes away for the whole winter. Nagoo's birthday is in the beginning of the summer. When the sun begins to shine each summer, Nagoo's mother puts one more bone in the little bag.

In the winter, Nagoo and his mother and father live in a round white house made from big blocks of snow. Nagoo's father showed him how to make a little one for his two dogs. In the spring, when the snow house begins to melt, they move into a tent made of skins.

Nagoo does not know whether he likes the summer or the winter best. In the winter he plays with his two dogs. He drives them in his sled which is made of bone. The harness is made out of strips of walrus hide. He hunts the white baby seals through a hole in the ice. Sometimes he goes with his father to hunt the walrus. From the walrus the Eskimos get meat to eat, fur for clothes, oil for their lamps, bone for knives, and needles and thread to sew with.

In the summer Nagoo spears the pink salmon in the streams. He paddles in his little skin boat which he calls a kayak. He eats berries and picks flowers.

Put rings around the right words.

1. Nagoo is an—Indian; Eskimo; Italian.
2. His sun shines all—day; April; summer.
3. In winter he has a house of—skin; snow; stone.
4. His boat is called a—punt; canoe; kayak.
5. He hunts the—dog; bear; seal.

WHEN VISITORS COME

"I like to come to your house, Mrs. Connor," said Mrs. Dent. "I like to come when Danny is at home; he opens the door so nicely."

"Danny is the most polite little boy I know," said Mrs. Huff. "When he grows up he will get a good position."

When Danny Connor grew up he did get a good position. He was made the head of a big store. Now he owns the store.

This is how Danny opened the door. When the bell rang, he ran to the door at once. He opened it quickly, wide open. Then he said, "How do you do, Mrs. Dent? Won't you come in?" Next he got the visitor a chair and said, "Please sit down, Mrs. Dent, and I will tell mother you are here." Then he ran to call his mother.

Put rings around the right words.

1. Danny was—tall; clever; noisy; polite.
2. Mrs. Huff said, "He will get a good—house; horse; position; purse.
3. Danny now owns a—factory; store; hall; garage.
4. He opened the door—small; tall; wide; close.
5. He got for the visitor a—bed; table; cupboard; chair.
6. He called his—father; mother; sister; baby.
7. He did not—stare; walk; call; wait.
8. He spoke—loudly; up; politely; angrily.
9. He heard the—boy; bell; clock; car.
10. Danny's name was—Huff; Dent; Brown; Connor.
11. Polite people are—old; young; little; kind.
12. Kind people are—tall; short; polite; old.

MAKING MAPLE SUGAR

When I was a boy we looked forward to the spring sugar making almost as much as we did to Christmas. As

soon as the sun began to melt the snow, in March, we began to get ready the pails, pans and kettles.

When the great day came, these were all loaded on the sled and we drove off to the sugar bush. Father took the axe and cut a gash in each tree, three or four feet up the trunk. I put the spile, or little trough, in the gash, and set the pail under it.

When the pails were full of sap, they were emptied into the big sugar kettle under which the fire was burning. Here the sweet watery sap was boiled for two days till it became thick, rich maple syrup. We took out what we needed for maple syrup and boiled the rest still longer till all the water was driven off and only the sugar remained. This, when cooled, made maple sugar.

Answer the questions with a single word.

1. In what part of Canada did he live?
2. What comes out of the maple tree?
3. In what month does it begin to run?
4. What do they cut in a tree?
5. What does the sap run through?
6. What does it run into?
7. How long is it boiled for syrup?
8. What is the rest made into?
9. What color is maple syrup?
10. What taste has it?
11. On what is it eaten?
12. Is it made in Western Canada?
13. What kind of sugar is made in Western Canada?
14. At what kind of store do you buy maple syrup?
15. In what quantity is it bought?

THE SOLARIUM

A solarium is a sun cure house. It is a place where people who are sick can be cured by lying in the sun. The doctors have lately found out that the sun will cure many diseases if it is allowed to shine on the people who are sick.

There is, as yet, only one solarium in Canada. It is near Victoria, in British Columbia. It is a long, low building with great windows and wide porches. It was built with money collected by the Women's Institutes and the Junior Red Cross.

In the solarium there are twenty-four children with sick spines, lame hips, twisted legs and many other troubles. They lie all day in the sun, looking out over the blue sea. Soon the sun will make them well.

Put rings around the right words.

1. A solarium is a—fish; fruit; bed; house.
2. It is for curing people with—medicine; air; sun; steam.
3. Canada's solarium is near—Toronto; Victoria; Winnipeg; Calgary.
4. It was built by—women; kings; men; Red Cross.
5. It has of children—twenty-four; ten; eighteen; seven.

MR. FLICKERTAIL GOPHER

Gophers look rather like squirrels. Their claws are long so that they can dig burrows in the ground. They have cheek pouches in which they carry food to their burrows.

The prairie gopher is called the flickertail. It eats grain. It can carry from 240 to 300 grains of wheat at once in its cheek pouches. It also eats grass and grass roots.

In the fall, Mr. Flickertail is very busy storing food in his burrow. When its grows cold, it creeps in and goes to sleep. It sleeps all winter, wakening now and then to eat, and going to sleep again.

Gophers eat five or six heads of wheat at a meal, at least half a bushel a year. They do a great deal of harm to the crops and the farmers shoot or poison them. They are such cheerful, friendly little fellows that they would make good pets if it were not for the harm they do to the crops.

Put rings around the right words.

1. Gophers live in—nests; lairs; burrows.
2. They have cheek—dimples; pouches; straps.
3. They eat—fruit; nuts; grain.
4. They are called—squirrels; rats; flickertails.
5. They sleep all—summer; spring; winter.
6. They eat of wheat half a—pint; quart; bushel.
7. They harm the—trees; crops; flowers.
8. They are—cheerful; noisy; warm.
9. The farmers give them—fun; grain; poison.
10. Sometimes the gophers are—cut; shot; hanged.
11. A burrow is a—nest; hole; ditch.
12. Gophers are—fierce; large; gentle.
13. Gopher skins make—coats; caps; dresses.
14. They dig with their—noses; heads; claws.

HOW TO OPEN A NEW BOOK

See that you have a clean place on the desk on which to lay your book. Lay the back of the book on the desk, holding all the pages together. Then lay the covers flat on the desk, one on the right side and one on the left. Let the pages fall open as they wish.

Next take a few pages at the front of the book and press them down gently on the front cover. Then take a few pages at the back of the book and press them down on the back cover. Take some more pages at the front and then some more at the back. Keep doing this till you have pressed down all the pages.

If you bend the covers of your book too far back, the back of the book breaks and the leaves are loosened so that they soon come out.

Wash your hands before you take up your book, open it carefully, and put a mark in it when you stop reading.

Put rings around the right words:

1. First find a place—clean; cold.
2. Lay your book—folded; flat.
3. Press down pages at the—middle; front.
4. Press down pages at the—front; back.
5. Do not break the book's—back; front.
6. Open books with clean—face; hands.
7. Keep your place with a—mark; mitten.
8. Books are—friends; foes.
9. They—speak; teach.
10. They are made of—stone; paper.
11. They cost——trade; money.
12. They make nice—tables; gifts.

THE ELEPHANT'S BABY

Toto was a baby elephant. He was a pretty grey color and about as big as a calf. His mother was very proud of him. Toto's legs were not strong yet, so his mother used to push him along with her trunk.

One day Toto's mother wanted a drink. So she went off to the water-hole. Toto ran after her. He could not catch her and he began to cry. His mother came back for him and made him take hold of her tail with his trunk. In this way she drew him to the water-hole.

On another day, Toto fell into the mud of the water-hole. His mother put her trunk around him and pulled him out. She spanked him, then she washed him, then she gave him a drink of milk.

Draw a line under the right answer.

1. Toto was the child of a—dog; cow; elephant; horse.
2. He looked like a grey—pony; wolf; camel; calf.
3. His mother pushed him with her—feet; head; trunk; hands.
4. She pulled him with her—tail; trunk; side; back.
5. She spanked him with her—nose; ears; hands; trunk.
6. She fed him—grass; cake; milk; meat.

PETER

Peter was a little boy who lived in Holland. Holland is a low country. It is so low that the sea can go right over it. The people build high walls to keep the sea from going over the country. The walls are built of stone and are very strong. These walls are called dikes. Sometimes the water makes a little hole in the dike. Then it makes a bigger hole. Then it breaks the dike down and goes over the country, washing away the houses and barns.

One day when Peter was going home from school, he saw a little hole in the dike. Water was coming through. Peter knew the water would break down the wall. He sat down

by the dike and put his finger in the hole. That stopped the water. He waited but no one came. He sat there all night. In the morning they found him. He was very tired and cold but he still had his finger in the hole. He had saved the country.

Put a ring around the right answer:

1. Is Holland a high country?..... Yes. No.
2. Can the sea go over it?..... Yes. No.
3. Is a dike made of stone?..... Yes. No.
4. Can the water break the dike?..... Yes. No.
5. Was Peter a man?..... Yes. No.
6. Did he see a hole in the dike?..... Yes. No.
7. Did he go for help?..... Yes. No.
8. Did he save the country..... Yes. No.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GRASSHOPPERS?

Once upon a time some ants lived in a large field. They had not been there long when a family of grasshoppers moved in next door. The ants were busy little people and worked hard all day storing up food for the winter. The grasshoppers did not work at all. They danced and sang all summer long and laughed at the ants for working.

By and by it grew cold. The ants crept down into their snug homes and feasted on the food they had stored up. The grasshoppers had nowhere to go. They were very cold and very hungry indeed. At last they went to the ants and begged for some food.

"Sorry," said the ants; "you played while we worked. Now you must work while we enjoy ourselves."

Put rings around the right words:

1. Ants are—birds; insects.
2. They are—busy; lazy.
3. They live in the—house; field.
4. Grasshoppers are—insects; animals.
5. They are—lazy; busy.
6. They like to—work; dance.
7. They danced all—winter; summer.
8. They had no—field; food.
9. They begged from the—bees; ants.

THE MAN WHO MADE HORSES

I read a story the other day about some city children who went to spend a day in the country. There were four of them: Helen, Jack, Alice, and little Bob.

They had a fine time playing in the farmyard. They slid down the straw stack, and hunted the eggs, and fed the chickens, and waded in the brook behind the barn.

After dinner they ran across the field to the village to post a letter for their aunt. As they came back, they stopped to watch the blacksmith shoeing a horse. He had the horse's foot between his knees and was hammering the shoe on.

When they came home their auntie asked them what they had seen. "I saw a man making horses," said little Bob. "He had just finished one and was nailing one of its feet on."

Answer each question with a single word:

1. Where did the children live?.....
2. Where were they spending the day?.....
3. Who were they visiting?.....

4. Where did they play?
5. What did they slide down?
6. Where did they wade?
7. What did they go to post?
8. Who did they watch?
9. What was he doing?
10. What did Bob think he had made?

THE CLEVER TOAD

The screen door opened and mother set a dish of cornmeal and water down by the steps. She meant it for the baby chicks which were cheeping in the grass. The chicks did not come but the flies did. They settled down on the dish to have a party.

Just then a toad hopped out from under the step. "Hello!" he said to himself; "here are some fine fat flies for my dinner."

He gave one hop, and then stopped. "If I hop over there they will all fly away," he thought to himself. "Now what shall I do?"

Young Mister Toad sat still, thinking, for some minutes. What do you think he did then? He hopped suddenly into the middle of the dish of cornmeal. The flies buzzed off. Mister Toad took his "hands" and rubbed the cornmeal over himself till he looked like a lump of cornmeal porridge. The flies buzzed back and he ate every one of them.

Cross out the wrong words:

1. We feed baby chicks—cornmeal; oatmeal.
2. Flies settle on—trees; food.
3. Toads live under—tins; steps.

4. Toads—hop; run.
5. They have—"hands"; wings.
6. They eat—fruit; flies.

LAURA SECORD

At that time there was a war going on between Canada and the United States. The American soldiers crossed the Niagara river into Canada. They stopped at a farm house near the river to plan what they would do. They planned to attack the Canadian army which was about twenty miles off.

Laura Secord, the wife of the farmer, heard them. She made up her mind to warn the Canadians. She knew that the men would not let her go away from the house, so she took her milk-pail and set out to look for her cow.

She walked on and on after the cow. The woods were thick and the walking hard. The sun was hot. But Mrs. Secord plodded on and on. It was late at night before she reached the Canadian camp. She got there in time, though. When the Americans arrived the Canadians were ready for them.

Answer the questions in a single word:

1. What was going on?
2. Where did Laura Secord live?
3. What were the Americans making?
4. What did Laura take with her?
5. What did she walk through?
6. How far was it?
7. How long did it take her?
8. Whom did she warn?

TWO YOUNG OWLS

Maud S. Tully

One day early in May, Tommy Campbell came running into school and told the teacher that he had found an owl's nest.

"Good boy, Tommy," said the teacher. "You must show it to us this afternoon."

As soon as school was out, we followed Tommy to a tall tree near the edge of the bluff. Tommy showed us the nest. Jim and Andrew climbed the tree. Just as Jim's head came even with the nest there was a sharp "click" almost in his face. He nearly fell backward.

Andrew drew himself up and found two young horned owls in the nest. Young owls are called owlets. Andrew brought one of them down so that we might see it. Its body was as big as a hen's, and covered with soft grey down. Its eyes were very large and its beak strong and curved. Tommy held out a stick to it. It shut its beak on the stick and Tommy lifted it by the stick. Then Andrew put it back into its nest.

Put rings around the right answers:

1. Do owls live in Canada?..... Yes. No.
2. Are they large birds?..... Yes. No.
3. Do they nest in the grass?..... Yes. No.
4. Have they straight beaks?..... Yes. No.
5. Would they hurt you?..... Yes. No.
6. Have owlets feathers?..... Yes. No.

THE DOG THAT ANSWERED THE TELEPHONE

Not long ago, a gentleman in Vancouver found a handsome retriever dog. The dog followed the gentleman home, but it seemed unhappy. It would not eat, play, nor make friends with anyone.

A day or two afterwards, a notice appeared in the paper saying that a man in Victoria had lost a retriever dog. The Vancouver man called up the Victoria man on the telephone and told him of the dog he had found.

"Let me speak to the dog and I will know whether he is my dog or not," said the Victorian.

The dog was lifted up to the telephone and the receiver placed to its ear. When it heard the voice it began to bark and jump wildly about. It knew its master's voice at once.

Put rings around the right words:

1. Vancouver is a—house ; park ; city ; province.
2. It is in—British Columbia ; Ontaria ; Alberta ; Winnipeg.
3. The dog's home was in—Vancouver ; Victoria ; Regina ; Quebec.
4. It must have gone to Vancouver on the—train ; car ; boat ; aeroplane.
5. Its master called it up on the—telegraph ; radio ; electric ; telephone.
6. It answered with a—howl ; shriek ; bark ; word.

HARVEY'S OPERATION

Harvey started to school in September. He was a thin little boy with a pale face and a beautiful smile. There were four other children in the beginners' class.

Miss May gave them seats at the front of the room and some colored sticks to make houses with. When she came back, they had all made houses but Harvey.

Miss May told the First Grade a story. The other children told it again, but Harvey could not. She taught them to read some words. Next day Harvey had forgotten them.

All that week, Harvey was "tired." He was too tired to work and too tired to play. On Friday, Miss May went home with him and talked to his mother. On Monday Harvey had his tonsils out. Now Harvey is the brightest child in the class.

Put rings around the right answers:

1. How old was Harvey—four; six?
2. In what class was he—first; third?
3. What did he not make—house; barn?
4. What could he not tell—verse; story?
5. What could he not remember—song; words?
6. How did he feel—old; tired?
7. What was the matter—tonsils; teeth?
8. What was done to them—out; down?
9. What kind of boy is Harvey now—small; clever?

WHAT SLEEP DOES FOR YOU

Sleep helps to keep you well. While you sleep, your body rests. While you sleep, your body grows. Babies should sleep much of the time. Boys and girls should sleep a good deal of the time. Everyone should sleep with his window open.

If you are six years old, you need to sleep twelve hours every night. If you are eight or nine years old you should

sleep eleven hours every night. If you are twelve years old you should sleep at least nine hours every night.

This means that when you are six, you should go to bed at seven o'clock. When you are nine you should go to bed at eight o'clock. When you are twelve you should go to bed at nine or half-past nine o'clock.

Put rings around the right answers:

1. What does your body do in sleep?—rests; waits.
2. What else does it do?—grows; grinds.
3. What should you open to sleep?—box; window.
4. How many hours' sleep for six-year-olds?—12; 11.
5. How many for nine-year-olds?—11; 12.
6. When should six-year-olds go to bed?—7; 8.
7. When should nine-year-olds go to bed?—8; 9.
8. When should twelve-year-olds go to bed?—9; 10.

THE MASTIFF

The mastiff is a large, strong dog. It has a large head, a broad muzzle, large, thick, hanging lips, hanging ears, and smooth hair. It is yellowish in color with a dark muzzle and ears.

The mastiff is a very brave dog and will not run away even from a lion. Indeed, three or four mastiffs together are said to be able to kill a lion. Mastiffs make good watch dogs. Whatever is given them to watch, they keep safe. At the same time, they will not harm a stranger.

Mastiffs are not very good swimmers. A mastiff and a Newfoundland dog once met on a bridge and fought. While fighting, they rolled into the river. The Newfoundland

swam to shore. It shook itself and then looked back at the mastiff. Seeing that his enemy was being carried away, the Newfoundland dog dashed into the water, seized it by the back of the neck and drew it to shore.

Cross out the wrong words:

1. Mastiffs are—large; long.
2. They have—curly; smooth hair.
3. A dog's muzzle is his—nose; ears.
4. Mastiffs are good—hunters; watchers.
5. They are not good—watchers; swimmers.
6. The Newfoundland is—old; kind.

AN ARMY OF GEESE

In his book, "The Living Forest," Mr. Arthur Heming tells of the armies of geese which he saw in the far north of Canada. He says that during the moulting season it is quite common to see an army of geese.

They march in groups, each group being made up of one kind of goose: "White," "Laughing," "Canada," and "Grey." At that time of the year, they march southward. They walk rapidly along, looking like soldiers in uniform.

An army of white geese covers the ground like a blanket of snow. This snow field seems to shift back and forth as one group stops to feed and another group passes it. Sometimes a group of young geese would fly a little way as if trying their wings, then land and walk. It must have been an interesting sight.

Answer the questions with a single word:

1. Who tells about the geese?
2. In what book?
3. Where did he see them?

4. In what season was it?
5. How do they march?
6. What do they look like?
7. In what direction do they march?
8. Do they march straight forward?

HOW THE RED CROSS SOCIETY BEGAN

Nearly one hundred years ago there was born in France a little boy called Henri Duant. He was a very kind boy and as he grew up he thought a great deal about how he could help the people in the world.

About that time, France and Italy began to fight against Austria. There was a great battle. The soldiers lay in thousands, wounded and dying, on the field. Henri went to the battlefield and helped as many as he could.

After that he went all over the country, telling people of that dreadful sight. He got the people interested. At last, a great meeting was held at Geneva, in Switzerland. The meeting decided that in war there should be men and women who would go out to help the wounded. In order that the enemy should not shoot them, they were to carry a flag with a red cross on a white ground.

This was the beginning of the Red Cross Society. It has been taking care of people ever since. There is now a Junior Red Cross Society among school children. In this society children learn how to be healthy. Have you a Junior Red Cross in your school?

Answer the questions with a single word:

1. What was the man's name?
2. Where did he live?
3. What did he see?

4. Who were to go out to help?
5. What do they carry?
6. What does the Junior Red Cross teach?

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU HAVE A COLD

A cold usually begins with a sneeze. Next you feel a tickling in your nose and throat. Then you begin to feel chilly.

When you notice these things about yourself you should stay at home from school, not even playing with your own brothers and sisters. Colds are easily passed from one to another, and sometimes what seems at first to be a simple cold turns into a bad sickness like 'flu or scarlet fever.

When you have a cold you should stay in bed for two or three days. By doing so you will keep other people from catching your cold, and you will get better more quickly.

When you have a cold keep away from other people; cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze; use soft paper handkerchiefs and burn them. Do not kiss anyone. Use your own cup.

Answer the questions with a single word:

1. What does a cold begin with?
2. What comes in nose and throat?
3. How do you begin to feel?
4. Where should you stay?
5. What are colds?
6. What may they turn into?
7. What kind of handkerchief should you use?
8. What should you not do to anyone?

9. What should you do to mouth and nose?
10. What should you use?

WHAT MILK DOES FOR YOU

Milk is very good for boys and girls. It makes them strong and healthy. It has many kinds of food in it. Milk has fat, sugar, and lime in it. Everyone needs fat, sugar, and lime to keep well.

The fat is the part of the milk out of which butter is made. It keeps the body warm. The sugar in the milk is not like the sugar in candy. It is called milk sugar, and it makes the body strong. The lime in the milk keeps the bones sound and strong. Drinking milk makes fine, strong teeth.

Boys and girls who do not drink milk are often thin and pale. They do not sleep well. Their bones are weak and they have not much strength in their arms and legs. They cannot play; they cannot learn well. Their teeth decay readily. You should drink four glasses of milk every day.

Draw a line under the right words:

1. Milk has in it many kinds of—color; food; fat; drink.
2. The fat keeps you—thin; old; warm; cold.
3. The sugar makes you—large; small; sweet; strong.
4. The lime is good for your—head; hands; bones; nerves.
5. Each day drink glasses of milk—four; six; eight; ten.

POISON

Poison is something that will kill you if you eat or drink

of it. Many poisons are useful for other things, so most people have some in their homes. Boys and girls should learn what poisons are in the house and what plants and berries are poisonous. No one should ever keep poison without putting the word "Poison!" in large letters on the box or bottle.

Boys and girls should never eat or drink things unless they know what they are. A little boy in our school found some clear lumps in a box. They looked like candy. He ate some and gave some to a little girl. Soon they were both sick. The little boy told the teacher what he had done. The teacher made them vomit. The doctor gave them some nasty stuff and made them vomit more. They nearly died but they were saved.

Put rings around the right words:

1. Poison may—fill; kill; hurry; hurt.
2. Useful things may be—sweet; sour; pale; poison.
3. Do not eat strange—birds; bait; berries; bears.
4. If anyone is poisoned, get the—hose; house; doctor; dentist.

SALT

Salt comes out of the ground. In some places there are salt wells. The water in these wells is full of salt. This water is taken up and put in pans over a fire. The heat dries up the water and the salt is left in the pans. If they want fine salt, they make a hot fire and dry up the water quickly. If they want coarse salt, they make a small fire and dry up the water slowly. There are salt wells in Ontario, where most

of our salt comes from, but salt has been found also in northern Alberta.

In some parts of the world there are salt mines. The men dig deep down in the ground and find great beds of rock salt. In one mine, the men have taken out so much salt that there are great halls and rooms in the mine. There is a church and a room to dance in. They have lights in the rooms. The lights make the salt walls glitter like diamonds.

Put rings around the right answers:

1. Does salt come out of wells?.....Yes. No.
2. Is it put in bottles?.....Yes. No.
3. Does it come from drying up the water?.....Yes. No.
4. Do they dry the water off with heat?.....Yes. No.
5. Can they make fine salt if they wish?.....Yes. No.
6. Are there salt wells in Canada?.....Yes. No.
7. Is rock salt dry?.....Yes. No.
8. Do they take it out in lumps?.....Yes. No.

FISHING WITH A BIRD

In China they sometimes get birds to fish for them. The fisherman keeps some large birds called cormorants. Cormorants have long necks. The fisherman puts a ring around the cormorant's neck. The ring is made tight enough so that the bird can breathe but cannot swallow a fish.

When the birds all have rings on their necks, the fisherman takes them to the river. He sends them into the water. They swim and dive and catch fish. When a cormorant has caught a fish it tries to swallow it but the ring will not let the fish go down. The fisherman catches the bird and takes

the fish out of its mouth. When he gets enough fish he takes them to the town and sells them.

Cross out the wrong word :

1. They do this kind of fishing in—China; Canada.
2. The fishing birds are called—jays; cormorants.
3. The fisherman puts on them—cords; rings.
4. The rings let them—swallow; breathe.
5. The cormorants catch—birds; fish.
6. They try to—kill; swallow—the fish.
7. The fisherman takes it out of their—claws; mouth.
8. The cormorants—like; dislike—fishing.

THREE RIDDLES

I

I have a big round face,
I have no eyes.
I have two long hands.
It may surprise
You when I speak
Each hour and minute
of the week.

II

Flour of England,
Fruit of Spain,
Heaped together in a shower of rain;
Put in a bag,
Tied around with a string—
If you tell me this riddle I'll give you
a ring.

III

I am black and cold,
Yet I can shine ;
With light and heat,
From a deep, dark mine,
I shine and glow
On days of snow.

Write down the answer to each riddle :

1. The first is a
2. The second is a
3. The third is a

A NEW KIND OF SCHOOL

In northern Ontario there are great woods. The land has not yet been cleared for farming. Much of it never will be fit for that. The country is rich in mines and forests, and the families of trappers, hunters, miners, and forest rangers live there.

These families live far apart and the children had no schools. They wanted to go to school, so the government thought of a plan.

They took two railway cars and put seats and a teacher's desk in them. They hired a teacher for each car and sent the cars out along the two railways.

When the car comes to a place where there are a few children, it stops for a week or more. The teacher gives the children lessons. Then he gives them plenty of homework to last till he comes back, and the car goes on to the next stop. The children like to go to school in the car and they learn fast.

Answer the questions with a single word:

1. Where are the car schools?
2. What covers the country?
3. What families live there?
4. What did the children need?
5. Who thought of a plan?
6. When did they make the school?
7. How long does the car school stay?

SAFETY FIRST

Many men and women, many boys and girls, are hurt every year in the streets and on the roads. Usually they are hurt by trains or motor cars. Sometimes the driver is to blame; sometimes it is because the person hit was not watching.

Children should learn to take care of themselves. They should not play, or roll their hoops, or roller skate, or push their scooters, in the roadway.

When you have to cross the street, you should walk all the way to the corner. You should stand still on the sidewalk and look both ways before you start across. If your hat blows into the street, or your ball rolls into it, or your dog runs into it, you should look for cars before you run after it.

Put rings around the right answers:

1. What hurts children in the street?—drivers; cars; hoops; persons.
2. What must you always do when walking?—wait; wink; wind; watch.

3. Who should take care of you?—boy; baby; himself; yourself;
4. In the street you must not—say; sing; stay; play.
5. Always cross the street at—houses; gardens; walls; corners.
6. Before you start across—look; look; look; look.

DEE-DEE, CHICKADEE

B. M. Fraser

I am Tommy Tit, the Chickadee. I am a fat little black and white bird with a yellowish breast and a white spot on my head.

Many birds stay in Canada only while it is sunny and warm, but I am not afraid of cold. I hop about in the snow and pick up plenty of seeds. I stay in Canada all the year around.

I was digging for insects this morning. I was hanging upside down on a twig, digging into the bark of a tree with my sharp little bill. I looked in at a window and saw a little boy eating an orange, porridge, toast, and milk for his breakfast. The little boy saw me and ran out with a bit of suet for me. "Dee-dee-dee, Chickadee-dee" I said, to thank him.

Put rings around the right words:

1. The chickadee is a—bird; flower.
2. It has a yellowish—head; breast.
3. It has a white spot on its—head; breast.
4. It stays in Canada all—winter; summer.
5. It eats—seeds; chickens.

6. It has a sharp—back; bill.
7. It can hang head—down; up.
8. It likes—bark; suet.

HIAWATHA'S LESSONS

Then the little Hiawatha
Learned of every bird its language,
Learned their names and all their secrets.
How they built their nests in summer,
Where they hid themselves in winter,
Talked with them whene'er he met them,
Called them "Hiawatha's Chickens."

Of all the beasts he learned the language,
Learned their names and all their secrets,
How the beaver built their lodges,
Where the squirrels hid their acorns,
How the reindeer ran so swiftly,
Why the rabbit was so timid,
Talked with them whene'er he met them,
Called them "Hiawatha's Brothers."

Put rings around the right words:

1. Hiawatha was a little—Eskimo; Chinese; Indian; Japanese.
2. He lived in the—mountains; forest; plains; river.
3. He learned to talk to the—trees; flowers; lakes; birds.
4. They told him secrets—three; four; five; six.
5. He called them—birds; ducks; chickens; hawks.
6. He loved the—bees; bugs; animals; acorns.
7. He called them—sisters; fathers; friends; brothers.

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